

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/524,707

Examiner

Frederick C. Nicolas

Applicant(s)

LOWE, KEVIN G

Art Unit

3754

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 9/6/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>9/17/2007</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with the applicant's attorney Mr. Grant H. Peters on 9/17/2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1, line 9, after "combining", --the-- has been inserted; line 9, after "and", --the-- has been inserted; line 10, "generally" has been deleted; line 11, after "in", --the-- has been inserted.

Claim 2, line 1, "the" first occurrence, has been deleted; line 7, after "receiving", --the-- has been inserted; line 7, after "and", --the-- has been inserted; line 9, "generally" has been deleted; line 12, after "dispensing", --the-- has been inserted; line 14, after "dispensing", --the-- has been inserted; line 16, "a" has been deleted and --the-- has been inserted; line 18, after "pooling", --the-- has been inserted; line 20, "generally" has been deleted; line 20, after "in", --the-- has been inserted.

Claim 3, line 7, after "combining", --the-- has been inserted; line 7, after "and" second occurrence, --the-- has been inserted; line 8, "a pair of" has been deleted and --two-- has been inserted; line 9, "generally" has been deleted; line 11, after "in", --the-- has been inserted; line 14, after "of", --the-- has been inserted.

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Claim 4, line 6, after "combining", --the-- has been inserted; line 9, "a pair of" has been deleted and --two-- has been inserted; line 10, "generally" has been deleted; line 12, after "in", --the-- has been inserted.

Claim 5, line 1, "the" first occurrence, has been deleted; line 7, after "receiving", --the-- has been inserted; line 7, after "and", --the-- has been inserted; line 9, "generally" has been deleted; line 12, after "dispensing", --the-- has been inserted; line 14, after "dispensing", --the-- has been inserted; line 16, "a" has been deleted and --the-- has been inserted; line 18, after "pooling", --the-- has been inserted; line 20, "generally" has been deleted; line 20, after "in", --the-- has been inserted.

Claim 6, line 5, after "combining", --the-- has been inserted; line 5, after "and" second occurrence, --the-- has been inserted; line 8, "a pair of" has been deleted and --two-- has been inserted; line 9, "generally" has been deleted; line 11, after "in", --the-- has been inserted; line 14, after "of", --the-- has been inserted.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-6 are allowed.

Conclusion

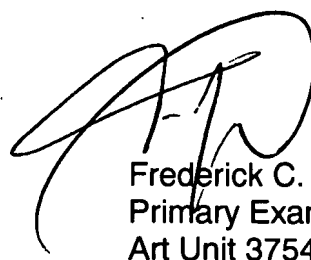
3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frederick C. Nicolas whose telephone number is (571)-272-4931. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin P. Shaver, can be reached on 571-272-4730. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

FN
September 17, 2007

 9/17/07
Frederick C. Nicolas
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3754